

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, reflects all changes currently being made thereto, and replaces all earlier versions and listings:

1. (currently amended): A data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices connected with a ~~communication medium~~ network, comprising:

~~acquisition means for acquiring function information, connection information and status information of each device through communication with the device;~~

~~management~~ storing means for storing ~~and managing the function information~~[[,]] and connection information ~~and status information acquired by said acquisition means of the various devices;~~

system displaying means for displaying a system configuration of the network on a display unit by using ~~icons~~ an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance with the connection information ~~and status information stored and managed by said management~~ storing means;

designation means for designating ~~a combination of optional icons displayed on the display unit~~ the plural icons from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

function setting screen displaying means for displaying a setting screen for setting a combination function ~~in accordance with the combination designated by said designation means and displaying a configuration image including an expansion function of each device designated by said designation means on the combination function setting~~

screen in accordance with the function information stored and managed by said management means achievable by combining the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated by said designation means, in accordance with the function information stored by said storing means; and

control means for controlling ~~a composite function operation of devices~~ corresponding to the combination function in accordance with an execution designation on the combination function setting screen displayed by said function setting screen displaying means the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated by said designation means, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen displayed by said function setting screen displaying means.

2. (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said function setting screen displaying means displays a setting segment for an executable expansion function of each device on the ~~combination function~~ setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device ~~designated~~ stored by said designation storing means.

3. (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising editing means for editing ~~and setting~~ display contents on the setting segment for the executable expansion function of each device displayed by said function setting screen displaying means;

~~wherein said function-setting screen displaying means displays the setting segment for the executable function of the device on the combination function-setting screen in accordance with an edit result by said editing means.~~

4. (currently amended): apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~communication medium~~ network is connected with plural other data processing apparatuses communicable with the data processing apparatus.

5. (original): An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein one of the plural data processing apparatuses is used as a management server.

6. (currently amended): An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the management server can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device[.].

~~wherein said acquirement means acquires the expansion configuration image resource of each device transmitted from the management server each time the expansion configuration image resource of the device including the expansion function of the device and managed by the management server is updated.~~

7. (original): An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the devices include a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem.

8. (currently amended): A data processing method for a data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices connected with a communication medium network, comprising:

an acquirement step of acquiring function information, connection information and status information of each device through communication with the device;

a management storing step of storing ~~and managing~~ the function information[[,]] and connection information and status information acquired in said acquirement step of the various devices;

a system displaying step of displaying a system configuration of the network on a display unit by using ~~icons~~ an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance with the connection information ~~and status information~~ stored ~~and managed~~ in said management storing step;

a designation step of designating ~~a combination of optional icons displayed on the display unit~~ the plural icons from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

a function setting screen displaying step of displaying a setting screen for setting a combination function ~~in accordance with the combination designated in said designation step and displaying a configuration image including an expansion function of each device designated in said designation step on the combination function setting screen in accordance with the function information stored and managed in said management step~~ achievable by combining the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step, in accordance with the function information stored in said storing step; and

a function executing step of controlling ~~a composite function operation of~~  
devices corresponding to the combination function in accordance with an execution  
designation on the combination function setting screen displayed in said function setting  
screen displaying step the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated in  
said designation step, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen  
displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

9. (currently amended): A method according to Claim 8, wherein said  
function setting screen displaying step ~~displays~~ includes displaying a setting segment for an  
executable expansion function of each device on the ~~combination function~~ said function  
setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device ~~designated~~ stored  
in said ~~designation~~ storing step.

10. (currently amended): A method according to Claim 9, further  
comprising an editing step for editing ~~and setting~~ display contents on the setting segment  
for the executable expansion function of each device displayed in said function setting  
screen displaying step;

~~wherein said function setting screen displaying step displays the setting~~  
~~segment for the executable function of the device on the combination function setting~~  
~~screen in accordance with an edit result by said editing step.~~

11. (currently amended): A method according to Claim 8, wherein a

management server is provided which can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device[.],]

wherein said-acquirement step acquires the expansion configuration image resource of each device transmitted from the management server each time the expansion configuration image resource of the device including the expansion function of the device and managed by the management server is updated.

12. (original): A method according to Claim 8, wherein the devices include a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem.

13. (currently amended): A storage medium storing a computer-readable program for controlling a data processing apparatus capable of data communications with various devices connected with a ~~communication medium~~ network, comprising:

~~an acquirement step of acquiring function information, connection information and status information of each device through communication with the device;~~

a management storing step of storing ~~and managing~~ the function information[.],] and connection information ~~and status information~~ acquired in said acquirement step of the various devices;

a system displaying step of displaying a system configuration of the network on a display unit by using icons an icon corresponding to each of the devices, in accordance

with the connection information ~~and status information~~ stored and managed in said management storing step;

a designation step of designating ~~a combination of optional icons~~ displayed on the display unit the plural icons from among the icons displayed on the display unit;

a function setting screen displaying step of displaying a setting screen for setting a combination function ~~in accordance with the combination designated in said designation step~~ and displaying a configuration image including an expansion function of each device designated in said designation step on the combination function setting screen ~~in accordance with the function information stored and managed in said management step~~ achievable by combining the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step, in accordance with the function information stored in said storing step; and

a function executing step of controlling ~~a composite function operation of~~ devices corresponding to the combination function in accordance with an execution designation on the combination function setting screen displayed in said function setting screen displaying step the devices respectively corresponding to the icons designated in said designation step, on the basis of the combination function set by using the screen displayed in said function setting screen displaying step.

14. (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein said function setting screen displaying step displays ~~includes displaying~~ a setting segment for an executable expansion function of each device on the ~~combination function~~

said function setting screen, in accordance with the function information of the device designated stored in said designation storing step.

15. (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 14, wherein the program further comprises an editing step for editing ~~and setting~~ display contents on the setting segment for the executable expansion function of each device displayed in said function setting screen displaying step;

~~wherein said function setting screen displaying step displays the setting segment for the executable function of the device on the combination function setting screen in accordance with an edit result by said editing step.~~

16. (currently amended): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein a management server is provided which can store and manage an expansion configuration image resource of each device[[,]]

~~wherein said acquirement step acquires the expansion configuration image resource of each device transmitted from the management server each time the expansion configuration image resource of the device including the expansion function of the device and managed by the management server is updated.~~

17. (original): A storage medium according to Claim 13, wherein the devices include a printer, a fax machine, a digital copying machine, a scanner, a digital camera, and a modem.

18. - 47. (canceled).